Pending project report of R.T.P.S. Unit-5

577. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that project report of R.T.P.S. Unit-5 is pending with the Central Government for clearance;

(b) if so, by what time it will be cleared;

(c) whether any financial assistance will be given to this power project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI:) (a) and (b) The proposal for setting up tSage-III (Unit-5 of 500 MW) of the Raichur Thermal Power station was received by the Central Electricity Authority in April, 1989 from Government of Karnataka. The scheme could be processed for techno-economic clearance after the essential inputs such as; coal linkage, water availability and necessary clearances including environmental and forest clearance, etc. are tied up by the project authorities.

(c) and (d) Do not arise at this stage.

Suggestions for increase in Electricity tariff for agriculture sector

578. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government suggestion to increase the electricity tariff for agriculture sector at a certain floor level remains unimplemented as the States are unwilling to accept the same; and

(b) what is the total amount of subsidy that the States have to incur for lower rate of electricity charges for agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI:) (a) and (b) The fixation of tariff for supply of power by the State Electricity Boards is within the jurisdiction of the States. During the Conferences of Power Ministers of States, it was resolved that there should be a national minimum agricultural tariff for electrical energy and that this should be fixed at 50 paise per unit for the present. Some States have revised their tariff, though not all to the suggested level. The losses of the SEBs for subsidised supply of power to the agricultural sector during 1990-91 is likely to be about Rs. 4600 crores, which needs to be subsidised by the State Governments.

Invitation to Private Sector Entrepreneurs for running of Power Projects

579. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to invite private sector entrepreneurs to put up power projects during the Eighth Five Year Plan preiod; and

(b) if so, the details of projects which are proposed to be offered to the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the projects identified/advertised for private sector participation (as per information available from State Governments) are given in the enclosed Statement.